

Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 COME-00 SCEM-02 INT-08 IO-13 DRC-01 /184 W

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R 051301Z SEP 73

FM AMXMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7586

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USINT ALGIERS

USINT CAIRO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 3225

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG XF

SUBJ: THIRD EXTRAORDINARY OAPEC MEETING

REF: KUWAIT 3076 (NOTAL)

1. THIRD EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERIAL OAPEC MEETING HELD KUWAIT
SEPT 4. AS ANTICIPATED REFTEL PRIMARY FOCUS OF MEETING WAS ON
BAHRAIN DRY-DOCK PROJECT WHICH UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AND INITIALED
BY OAPEC MEMBERS. IN SURPRISE MOVE NEW SYG WAS SELECTED TO REPLACE
SUHAIL SAADAWI, A LIBYAN, WHO RESIGNED SOME MONTHS AGO. NEW

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SYG, ALSO A LIBYAN, WILL BE DR. ALI AHMAD ATTIKA.

2. DESPITE RADIO CAIRO REPORT TO CONTRARY AND ATTENDANT PRESS SPECULATION THAT OAPEC WOULD CONSIDER COMMON OIL POLICY IN MIDDLE EAST AND USE OF OIL AS A WEAPON, WE UNDERSTAND FROM RELIABLE SOURCE MATTER WAS BARELY TOUCHED UPON BY OAPEC MINISTERS. GROUP EXPRESSED UNANIMOUS BUT MINIMAL SUPPORT RE RECENT LIBYAN 51 PERCENT NATIONALIZATION OF OIL COMPANIES. IN FACT WE UNDERSTAND YAMANI AND ATIQI CRITIZED LARG OVER NEW LIBYAN CRUDE PRICES RESULTING FROM NATIONALIZATION ACTIONS BECAUSE OF THEIR CONCERN THAT MOVE WILL ADD TO INFLATIONARY PROBLEMS.

3. COMMENT: APPEARS ARAB OIL MINISTERS DECIDED MAINTAIN OAPEC AS ESSENTIALLY TECHNICAL FORUM. OUR INFORMATION IS THAT THEY PREFER TO HAVE OIL AS A WEAPON ISSUE DISCUSSED AT ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AND TO RESERVE DISCUSSION COMPLICATED ECONOMIC QUESTIONS SUCH AS INFLATION AND PRICE CHANGES FOR OPEC MINISTERIAL IN VIENNA, SEPT 15.
STOLTZFUS

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30 JUN 2005

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